

Home Childcare Advisory Minutes

September 18, 2008

Members Present: Debbie Sampson, Melanie Brizzie, Noel Hanson, Tamela Hunt, Debbie Sampson, Pamela Steele, Renee Armstrong, Jennifer Delucio, Bev Losier, Heather Colglazer, Bill Powell, Mark Snyder as guest.

Develop a meeting agenda for September 30th.

- **Path's to Quality:** Noel stated that this issue is too new to report to the Legislators. She recommended stating that we are going to stay on top of it. Bev Losier feels that we need to state the issues and concerns. Curriculum requirement, time elements. Melanie stated that we should only bring things to the Legislature that apply to them. Such as zoning issues, complaint process etc.
- **CCDF Funding:** Renee Armstrong brought the concern of payment process for the children on subsidy. Not a fixed payment. i.e. based on hours attended not fixed. Would like to see payments based on childcare facility fee. Melanie's recommendation would be to have the Legislators study CCDF voucher payments. Changing this rule would require a promulgation process. (changing the rules) Pamela stated she has similar issues with teacher's children. Federal law states that we have to treat all parents the same. Mark Snyder mentioned that this is a federal law, so Indiana might not have any authority to change this. Noel and Renee mentioned that providers do not have the time to babysit the finances.
- **Complaint Process:** Currently providers are not covered under confidentiality reports. The only persons covered under confidentiality clause are CPS complaints. Example: Provider give names of illegal babysitters... providers got about 13 phone calls harassing her for turning in illegals. Jennifer mentioned that we would have more people get involved if the provider had anonymity. Group agreed that we will recommend that anyone who makes the complaint should be covered under confidentiality.
- **Zoning and Covenant Issues:** Debbie Sampson attended a conference last week on zoning issues. All over the state, there are counties trying to close home daycares down. This is not a consistent issue. Some have been covenants and some have been zoning issues. Debbie emailed NAFCC's statement on zoning. California already has a law protecting home providers from landlords, zoning, and covenants so they can't be treated differently than any other home. Bev Losier: In Indiana, a covenant over rides any legislation, that it is a contract between two people. Would like to see legislation to protect Home Childcare Providers. Noel brought up the point regarding providers LIVING in the home vs. those who do not live in the home. Bev mentioned also protecting non lived in homes as well. Pamela also has spent a lot of money on her home that she does not live in. We are short changing the state because we will lose providers and chase them away. (Bev) Noel brought up the opposition point. A family moves

into a home in a quiet neighborhood. Expecting a nice quiet area... does this make a difference?
Melanie: Does the amount of children matter in this discussion? Class 1 or 2, multiple licenses under one roof. Mark mentioned his situation of having to go through zoning and having extra rules apply to his home. Minus a couple of situations, Debbie mentioned homes with problems with zoning issues have been single family homes. Pamela stated the research should include the Devil's Advocate point of view as well. Final thoughts...We would recommend that equal protection across the state and in each county that each childcare home is treated like a business.

- **Requirement to have Insurance:** Renee Armstrong brought up the issue about requiring childcare providers to carry Insurance. Melanie suggested that we table this discussion until we can build a possible task force.
- **Make up on the Committee:** Renee will present a statement about the makeup of the Legislative Committee. Under the initial intent of this committee that there would not be a representative of childcare on the committee. All or None.
- **Representation:** Bev asked the question about how to represent ALL of her area. Heather stated that she linked up with her Resource and Referral. They are willing to send out emails for us!
- **Membership replacement:** Melanie suggested adding to the bylaws that more meetings may be required. Noel will adjust the time for the next meeting. Time and place to be announced. Time is more important than the date.